



# Pantry Partner

C / O North Dakota Community Action Association

## North Dakota Association of Nonprofit Organizations Provides a Collaborative Network

Nonprofit organizations are essential elements of vital communities. These organizations enrich the quality of life, embody the highest societal values, and strengthen democracy. The continued success of North Dakota's nonprofit sector depends upon public confidence, broad public support and a unified nonprofit sector voice.

The North Dakota Association of Nonprofit Organizations (NDANO) is dedicated to serving as the vehicle for that unified voice. Established in 1997, NDANO has grown to well over 200 members. Members include nonprofits from every facet, business sponsors, and friends of the nonprofits. Membership fees are based on your organization's annual operating budget.



Benefits of membership are plentiful. They include:

- A clearinghouse for essential information about nonprofit management, governance, resources and referrals.

- Access to workshops. NDANO offers a wide range of workshops and a conference addressing the challenges that nonprofits face every-day.
- Discounts on workshops and products, service referrals and access to donated equipment.
- Updates on state and federal issues pertinent to the nonprofit sector.
- A voice for nonprofits in critical public policy discussions.
- Networking opportunities with colleagues sharing your passion and commitment to the nonprofit sector.

For more information about NDANO contact 1-888-396-3266 or check out their web site at [www.ndano.org](http://www.ndano.org).



## Food Dialog Workshop makes a stop in Devils Lake...

The next *Food Dialog Workshop for Emergency Food Providers* is scheduled for:

**Tuesday, May 22**  
**10:00 am to**  
**3:30 pm CST**  
**Elks Lodge**  
**Devils Lake, ND**

This FREE workshop is full of helpful information about the commodity program, recruiting volunteers, creative service delivery methods, grant writing and much more. The workshop is intended to serve as a vehicle for enhanced

communication among emergency food providers. Scholarships are available to assist with travel expenses associated with attending the workshop. *Pre-registration is required* call the ND Community Action Association today at 1-800-223-0364.

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Information on grants, projects, and much more!

### Newsletter Published by:

*The*  
*North Dakota*  
*Community Action*  
*Association*  
2105 Lee Avenue  
Bismarck ND  
58504  
Phone:  
701-258-2240  
FAX  
701-258-2245



## *In the Spirit of Community Continued...*

### Lisbon Community Food Pantry

In a continuation of highlighting rural food pantries and the spirit of community collaboration, the Lisbon Community Food Pantry brings forth that value.

Nestled within a local church off of main street, the food pantry is a collaborative effort of area churches, clubs and organizations.

Joann Montgomery, a volunteer Coordinator with the pantry, beams with pride as she talks about the variety of groups in and around the community that are committed to keeping the

shelves stocked.

"Donations come in from the Boys and Girls Scouts, Eagles & Kiwanis Clubs, schools, churches...the list is endless.", states Montgomery.

Recently, a group of local elementary students made a special donation to the pantry. The group of youngsters utilized their artistic skills to draw pictures and messages to families on paper grocery bags. The bags were then given to the food pantry. Families and individuals receiving items from the pantry were able to take them home in the special

packages. One of the bags was decorated beautifully with hearts and hands and was inscribed with *"Food feeds people but love makes them a family."* This message seems fitting for a community working closely to meet the needs of its citizens.

To learn more about the food pantry contact: Joann Montgomery at 701-683-5471.

Joann Montgomery  
Lisbon Community  
Food Pantry,  
Lisbon, ND

### *Logan County Social Services*

In the heart of Logan County, is the county seat of Napoleon. The county courthouse is home not only to the Logan County Social Services, but also a community food pantry. This partnership proves to be a unique insight into the needs of the entire county.

Jean Lang with Logan County Social Services explains, "Our Board of Directors derives from all over the county. They are tuned into their neighbors and are aware of the needs specific to their community. This network proves to be helpful when

families in remote areas are in need of food. Also, the board is a great advocate for low-income issues."

Much like the Lisbon Food Pantry mentioned above, a variety of clubs, organizations, businesses, and churches contribute regularly to the pantry. Lang stated, "At Christmas time, some of the local elementary schools have students bring food for the pantry instead of exchanging gifts. It teaches them the spirit of giving and helping their community." For more

information about the Logan County Social Services Food Pantry contact:

**Jean Lang  
Logan Co. Social  
Services  
701-754-2283**

*NOTE: If you are interested in having your food pantry highlighted in future issues of this newsletter, please contact Kristi at the North Dakota Community Action Association:  
1-800-223-0364.*

*Logan County Social  
Services Food Pantry,  
Napoleon, ND*

**RESOURCES****Dakota Medical Foundation**

The Dakota Medical Foundation is dedicated to improving the health of the people of the Red River Valley region of North Dakota and Minnesota. The Foundation particularly seeks: partnerships with other organizations, partnerships among organizations and communities, projects that consider unmet health needs, and projects that truly make a difference.

To apply for a grant, the Foundation suggests making an initial phone contact to briefly review your proposed grant proposal. After the initial phone contact, nonprofit organizations are invited to submit letters of intent outlining their proposed projects.

For more information about the Dakota Medical Foundation contact: 701-271-0263. You can also visit the Foundation's website at:

**[www.dakmedfdn.org](http://www.dakmedfdn.org)**

**Nodak Mutual Insurance Grants**

Nodak Mutual Insurance Company established a foundation to provide grants to nonprofit organizations in North Dakota. The emphasis of the grants program will be to support organizations in rural communities across North Dakota. Grants will be awarded for project support and will generally be less than \$2,000.

The Nodak Mutual Insurance Foundation Board will meet quarterly to consider proposals. To submit a proposal, send a 2-3 page proposal that describes the organization, the project, and its impact. Also send a project budget, list of board members, and copy of the IRS 501c3 letter to:

**Nodak Mutual Insurance Company  
1101 1st Avenue North  
Fargo ND 58102**

**Cruise the web for Grant Resources**

The Foundation Center's web site now features a specialized search engine that allows users to search the web sites of more than 1,000 grant makers. Users of the *Grant-maker Web Search* can select from various types of grant makers, private foundations and charities which award grants. For example, a search of private foundations using the search term "poverty" yields over 140 search results. Among the results are links to grant makers' guidelines, annual reports, financial statements and much more. The web site can be found at:

**[www.fdncenter.org/searchzone](http://www.fdncenter.org/searchzone)**

**Thinking about the Future**

The North Dakota Association of Nonprofit Organizations and Bismarck State College are offering a seminar to help you explore the methods and benefits of long-range planning for a nonprofit agency. The seminar is scheduled for June 19th from 9:00 am to 11:50 am. The seminar will be held over the IVAN network. Sites include: Bismarck, Minot, Fargo, Dickinson and Grand Forks. For more information contact BSC at 1-800-852-5685.

**Grant Writing North Dakota Style**

*Grantseeking from ND: a workshop in print*, is a publication available from the Resource Center in Fargo. The publication contains loads of information on potential grant sources, writing tips and much more. The cost is \$15 call 1-877-233-8966.

- Hewlett-Packard donates equipment to nonprofits working to address various issues. Check out: [www.webcenter.hp.com/grants/us](http://www.webcenter.hp.com/grants/us) for more information.
- If you are using print materials to recruit volunteers, *The Volunteer Recruitment Book* by Susan Ellis, suggests not including the word "volunteer" in a headline. Why? Stereotypes about volunteering will block your message. Try using phrases such as "get involved" or "become a part of the community." These messages tend to make people feel less apprehensive about volunteering their time.
- Would your food pantry like a free supply of educational coloring books to distribute to families with young children? For more information contact the NDCAA at 1-800-223-0364.
- A great website to find resources and information for senior citizens can be found by logging on to: [www.ndseniorinfo.com](http://www.ndseniorinfo.com)
- You can say that again...*Service is just a day-in, day-out, ongoing, never-ending, unremitting, preserving, compassionate type of activity.*  
-Leon Gorman-



Contact LRR at 1-800-950-2901.

## Lutheran Rural Response

*Collaborating to aid rural North Dakota*  
Information provided by Lutheran Rural Response

**Lutheran Rural Response (LRR)**, a program of Lutheran Social Services, focuses on bringing healing, help and hope to rural communities, families and individuals. Floods, high water tables, low commodity prices and other problems have contributed to the many challenges rural areas are experiencing.

In an effort to bring relief, LRR offers a wide variety of programs to those in need. Some of the programs and services include the

following:

- **Food Assistance:** Boxes containing reclaimed grocery products are available to food cupboards, food shelves, churches and communities.
- **Free Lutheran Social Services Counseling:** Available by phone or in office.
- **Resource Connection Services:** A resource specialist is available to help connect people to available resources.

Resource directories for all ND counties and regions are also available.

- **Special Programs:** Presentations or retreats that address specific issues for schools, communities or groups.

LRR provides services to *all* rural families regardless of religious affiliation. For more information on services or contact persons in your area call: 1-800-950-2901 or check out their website at [www.lrrnd.org](http://www.lrrnd.org).



## Information Request

For any additional information or to submit a news bit for the next newsletter, please complete this form and return it the address listed below.

Please send me additional information on:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Action      | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Gleaning               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Dialog Workshop  | <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Opportunities         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: please specify | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Needs Assessment Study |

- ☐ I would like to contribute a story, or news bit for the next newsletter. Please contact me.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

C/O North Dakota Community  
Action Association  
2105 Lee Avenue  
Bismarck ND 58504

## Food & Nutrition

The Department of Agriculture has announced funds to develop long-term solutions that help ensure food security in communities by linking the food production and processing sectors to community development, economic opportunity, and environmental enhancement. Nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply. The deadline is May 18, 2001. Approximately 25 awards will be made and no single grant shall exceed \$100,000. For more information contact Dr. Mark Bailey at 202-401-1898 or email him at:



[m Bailey@reeusda.gov](mailto:m Bailey@reeusda.gov)

  
**NDCAA**



## Healthy Farms, Healthy Kids: Farm to School Resource

Across the United States, schools and communities are working to provide healthy school meals for students while supporting local farmers by incorporating locally grown produce into school food service. A new resource entitled "*Healthy Farms, Healthy Kids*", highlights seven different Farm to School projects. One project example is the establishment of salad bars using fruits and vegetables from farmer's markets. The publication also provides information to assist with the development of new programs and provides analysis of federal policies related to nutrition and local food systems. The report costs \$16 (shipping and handling included) and can be ordered by mailing a check to:

**CFSC**  
**PO Box 209**  
**Venice CA 90294**  
**or calling 310-822-5410**

## Protecting Your Volunteers

By: JoAnn Leifert, Executive Risk

When Former President Clinton signed the *Volunteer Protection Act of 1997*, protecting volunteers from lawsuits, non-profit organizations across the country breathed a collective sigh of relief. While the law may indeed ease volunteers' concerns, it may also give nonprofits a false sense of security.

Nonprofit directors should be aware that this complex law has a number of important limitations and exclusions. For example:

- *The Act does not protect volunteers against employment claims, such as discrimination or harassment.*
- *The law does not provide immunity from legal expenses incurred.*
- *Volunteers won't know whether the law will protect them against a loss until the court makes a final determination.*
- *The law does not protect the organization itself or its employees—it only pertains to volunteers.*

A brief scan of the news should tell you no organization is immune from lawsuits. The need for an effective risk management strategy—that includes insurance—on the part of the non-profit organizations is greater than ever.

Of course, the cost of adequate insurance can be a concern for a financially strapped nonprofit organization. But a reasonable cost is a relatively small price to pay when you consider that a single lawsuit can shut down the organization's doors.

For more information about adequate and appropriate levels of insurance for your organization, contact an insurance agency near you.




## Community Food Projects Program



*Deadline for  
proposals is  
May 18th.*

The USDA Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service invites proposals for its 2001 *Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program*. For the past five years, the program has funded comprehensive projects that meet the food needs of low-income people, increase self reliance of communities in meeting their own food needs, and respond to local food, farm and nutrition issues. The program awards grants up to \$100,000 for one year programs or up to \$250,000 for programs extending over three years. Proposals must be received on or before May 18, 2001. You can visit their website at [www.reeusda.gov/crgam/cfp/community.htm](http://www.reeusda.gov/crgam/cfp/community.htm) to read about past winners and download a copy of the request for proposals or contact Dr. Elizabeth Tuckermanty at 202-205-0241 or email at: [etuckermanty@reeusda.gov](mailto:etuckermanty@reeusda.gov) for more information.



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Bismarck ND 58504

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
[WWW.NDCAA.ORG](http://WWW.NDCAA.ORG)

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